(c) the details of projects that have been completed out of above (a) and (b) projects as of 2009, State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for the delay, if any, in execution of the projects, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (d) No project, identified under NHDP Phase III in Andhra Pradesh, was at DPR stage in 2004. The details of NHDP Phase-III projects which were at DPR stage in Tamil Nadu in 2004 alongwith their current status is as under:

S.No.	Project	Current status
1	Kerala/TN Border-Kanyakumari of NH 47	Tender stage
2	Nagercoli to Kavalkinaru of NH 47 B	Tender stage
3	TN/Pondicherry Border -Tindivanam of NH 66	Work in progress

Tackling of accidents on National Highways

547. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a recent study conducted by Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, which was released by the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission in March, 2009, has opined that construction of new roads in urban and rural areas seems to have resulted in an increase in road accidents and that death rate per kilometer on National Highways in richer States is higher than those in hilly States; and

(b) if so, how the 1,06,000 casualties during 2006 projecting an increase to 2,60,000 in 2030, would be tackled on long-term basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA): (a) A recent study report namely "Road Safety in India: Challenges and Opportunities" has been prepared by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI). The report is coauthored by Shri Dinesh Mohan, Professor, IIT Delhi, a visiting researcher at UMTRI, and UMTRI researchers, Omer Tsimhoni, Michael Sivak and Michael J. Flannagan. This report was released by Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission on 09th March 2009. The report has shown the fatalities on different category of roads in Indian States and observed that about two-thirds of fatalities, take place on national and State highways . As per report, the average fatality rate for national highways in non-hilly States was 59 persons per km per year in 2004 whereas the same rate in hilly States was 16. The report indicates that States with higher per capita income experience a higher incidence of traffic fatality per 100 km of road length.

(b) It is not easy to project fatalities due to road accidents as the latter is influenced by the interplay of a host of factors which amongst others include growth in population, motorization level,

quality and expanse of road network, human and behavioural factors, road safety measures etc. In the report, Mr. M. Koornstra has predicted the year 2030 for the peak traffic fatalities in India. Based upon this, the report has calculated that there could be about 2,60,000 fatalities in the year 2030. However, the report suggests that this projected date *i.e.* 2030 cannot be accepted as road safety goal for the country. It is the constant endeavour of both the Union and State Governments to promote road safety. To this end, Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to reduce road accidents which *interalia* includes promoting road safety awareness and education, better road geometry and design, better enforcement of road safety regulations, emergency medical care for accident victims, road safety audit etc.

New highways sanctioned for Rajasthan

548. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of kilometers of new highways that have been sanctioned and added in Rajasthan during the last five years;

(b) the details of these highways;

(c) how many old roads have been taken over as highways;

(d) whether Government is aware that Delhi-Jaipur highway is in a very bad condition throughout the year; and

(e) if so, the steps that are being taken to improve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) No new kilometers of National Highways have been sanctioned and added in Rajasthan during the last five years.

(d) amd (e) Under National Highway Development Programme wherever 4/6 laning works are under implementation, the existing roads are kept in traffic worthy condition. The maintenance of existing roads are carried out by the Contractor/Concessionaire as part of their obligations under contract/concession agreement. Delhi-Jaipur Section has been taken up for 6 laning and is being maintained in traffic worthy condition by the concessionaire.

Length of surfaced roads in Jharkhand

549. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of surfaced roads in Jharkhand; and

(b) whether there is any planning to increase this length of surfaced roads, indicating the current status, alongwith schedule of implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) This Ministry is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of